

SHOPPING IN PARIS.

How Women Go Crazy Over Alleged Bargains.

An American Schoolma'am Who Was Drawn into the Vortex of the Bon Marche, and Learned Wisdom.

[Paris Cor. New York Tribune.]

On the great occasion of the mise en vente special sale the campaign is elaborately planned. On the sidewalk are counters filled with cheaper goods...

In the morning everything is in order, each clerk at his post. Through the day the crowd gathers. Between 3 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon the aisles are packed with women of every class and condition.

The air has become hot and stifling, the aisles impassable except to the shoppers, who, like the insane, have been given unusual strength. Each tray of lace is surrounded by women two rows deep.

The craze takes two forms. Some women are paralyzed. They go through the entire shop, rooting among laces and ribbons in a sort of fury, and buy nothing.

In an evil hour she went to the Bon Marche on a day of coupon. But she shall tell her own story: "I don't know how it happened. It was like a great suction-pipe, and I got drawn in."

But, oh! tell me what I will do! I had money to get here and my steamer passage but how will I pay my board here and get to Liverpool?

"Do you want the things?" "No, not a thousand times," the poor thing shrieked.

"What did you get them for?" "Somehow I thought it was my duty. They were so cheap."

Why a Woman Throws Awkwardly. [Clara Belle's Letter.] The doctor said, "reveals the action of her spinal column beautifully. Observe the articulation of the top rib with the vertebrae as she lifts her arm."

Italians in New York. The Italians in New York are said to be more economical than even the Chinese. A whole family will subsist on \$2 a week, rent excepted.

Mexico's Licensed Beggary.

[Fannie R. Ward in Pioneer Press.] In Mexico there are no almshouses to shelter the paupers, but mendicants are regularly licensed, and allowed to live out their lives in their own way, as long as not considered dangerous.

The legalized paupers are never impertinent, but if ever so harshly repulsed will make you an obsequious worshiper of Chesterfield in his palmiest days, and politely respond, "perdone neme usted."

English View of American Hotels.

[London Telegraph.] If, on the other hand, we turn to the United States, we find a country in which prevails a hotel system the most elaborate and most extensive in the world. A guest may obtain nearly all the requirements in life in an American hotel.

Adam Preferable to the Bartholdi Liberty.

[Mark Twain's Letter.] But, on the other hand—look at Adam. What have we done for Adam? Nothing. What has Adam done for us? Everything. He gave us life, he gave us death, he gave us heaven, he gave us hell.

A School in Tunis.

[Cor. Worcester Spy.] We visited a college for young boys. The class-rooms were small, without windows, and lighted from the entrance door only.

Had Hooked Onto Six.

[Exchange.] The man who was about to marry for the sixth time, and who replied, "We've usually got," when asked by his minister to stand up, has been heard from again.

Divers' Work.

[New York Sun.] "What different sorts of work do divers do?" "Well, they lay sea walls, blast rocks, build piers for bridges, repair vessels, tear up wrecks, search for dead bodies, recover things that have fallen overboard, and do anything that is to be done under the water."

FRENCH MARRIAGE.

The Religio-Civil Ceremony Arranged Between the Two Families.

[J. H. Haynie in San Francisco Chronicle.] Marriages are arranged in France, with very few exceptions, on pure business principles. They don't sell young girls in France like calves and colts, as they do in Germany.

Generally speaking, marriages in France are arranged between the two families with the help of a notary. Sometimes, it is true, there is a romance or a sentiment about the affair which tells of love and affection; but this does not often happen.

I have witnessed many weddings here in Paris, both civil and religious ones, and I must say that usually they are not the impressive affairs some writers would have us believe them to be. The popular days for weddings are Tuesdays and Saturdays.

The door leading into the street is left wide open, and it must remain so during the entire ceremony, for the law requires that a civil marriage shall be a public one. Any one has a right to enter, and if there be any reason for doing so, to make an objection.

And Ever is Justice Done.

The man that peddles apples out of a wagon puts the largest ones on top. The man who sells apples on a street-stand, also puts the largest ones on top, and every one picks them out, and leaves the small ones on his hands.

Reflections of a Doctor.

"As a general rule it is better to lose pain than to save them. The heirs of a dead man never try to cut down a bill; while the sick man, once cured, is a very bad customer to make pay."

ADULTERATION.

"What is that, mother, that comes from the urn, fragrant and strong as we get it in turn?" "An infusion of leaves from far Cathay, leaves of the alder and leaves of the lily, with a twang, and full flavored, just as it should be."

"What is that, mother, so coldly blue, like a wintry sky of azure hue?" "That is milk of the city, that mixture, my dear."

"What is that, mother, yellow as gold?" "Butter, my boy—not the butter of old. In the heyday of old we said it for fat; 'Twas a prophecy when we said butter for fat."

"What is that, mother?" "Tis the pepper of the Lord only knows of what it is made; Of roasted meal, of dust, and peas, With a dash of cayenne to make one sneeze, It is hot and strong; but it's rather queer, Of the ground pepper-corn, there's none of it here."

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